

REMARKS

By this amendment, Claims 1 and 3 have been cancelled and Claims 7 through 10 have been added. Claims 7 and 9 correspond substantially to original Claim 1, while Claims 8 and 10 correspond substantial to Claim 3. In the new Claims 7 and 8, it has now been made clear that a poly(3,4-alkylenedioxythiophene) can only be produced when R¹ and R² together form a C₁₋₄-alkylene group which is optionally substituted. Similarly, in new Claims 9 and 10, it has been made clear that a poly(3,4-dialkoxythiophene) can only be produced when R¹ and R² are C₁₋₄-alkyl groups. In addition, the preferred pH has been included in each claim. Support for the pH limitation can be found on 7, lines 12 - 18.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claim 3 was objected to and Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112. It is believed that the amendment presented herein obviates both the objection and the rejection.

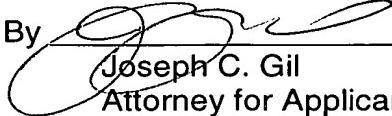
Claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over the Jonas et al reference (US 5,300,575) in view of the Moehwald et al reference (US 4,728,399). Applicants respectfully submit that the references do not fairly suggest the presently claimed invention.

The Jonas et al reference does not describe or suggest the specific oxidizing agent claimed or the claimed pH. The Examiner's attention is again respectfully directed to the examples of the present application. The examples clearly show the criticality of using the presently claimed oxidizing agent.

The Moehwald et al reference does not describe or suggest polymerizing either a 3,4-alkylenedioxythiopene or a 3,4-dialkoxythiophene and does not disclose or suggest the claimed pH. Furthermore, in the single working example shown in the Moehwald et al reference, sodium persulfate is used as the oxidizing agent. The comparative examples in the present application directly compared such an oxidizing agent to the claimed oxidizing agent. Higher total light transmissions and lower surface resistivities were achieved using the polymers of the present invention.

Reconsideration of the rejection is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Joseph C. Gil
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 26,602

Bayer MaterialScience LLC
100 Bayer Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205-9741
(412) 777-3813
FACSIMILE PHONE NUMBER:
(412) 777-3902

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